

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-9, 18-26, 35-60, and 75-78 are presently active in this case, Claims 2, 3, 19, 20, 35-37, 49, and 50 are amended by way of the present amendment.

Claims 1, 5-9, 18, 22-26, 43, 44, 48, 56, 57, 60, and 75-78 have been allowed. Claims 2 and 3 have been amended to depend from allowed Claim 1, and Claims 19 and 20 have been amended to depend from allowed Claim 18. Thus, the art rejections of Claims 2, 3, 19, and 20, and the claims that depend therefrom, have been rendered moot.

In the outstanding Official Action, Claims 2-4, 19-21, 35-39, 41, 42, 45-47, 49-52, 54, 55, 58, and 59 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,333,777 to Sato; and Claims 40 and 53 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sato in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,367,140 to Jouaneh et al.

The Official Action notes on page 6 that the “prior art fails to specifically teach the method of assembling an optical module, wherein the optical component is configured to receive with unrestricted divergence the light emitted from the light-emitting element.” Independent Claims 35 and 49 have been amended to include this feature, and therefore independent Claims 35 and 49 are in condition for allowance. Additionally, Claim 36 has been amended to depend from allowable Claim 35. Accordingly, Claims 2, 3, 19, and 20, and the claims that depend therefrom, have been placed into condition for allowance.

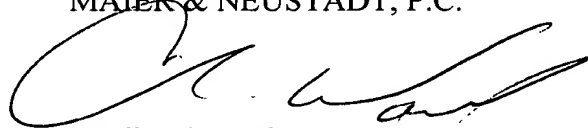
Application Serial No.: 09/845,158  
Reply to Office Action dated July 14, 2005

Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully submit that the art rejections have been overcome, and therefore respectfully request the withdrawal thereof.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application. The present application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action is therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Bradley D. Lytle  
Registration No. 40,073  
Attorney of Record

Christopher D. Ward  
Registration No. 41,367

Customer Number

**22850**

Tel. (703) 413-3000  
Fax. (703) 413-2220  
(OSMMN 10/01)

BDL:CDW:brf

I:\atty\cdw\20xxxx\201085US2\am2.doc